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M O N T H L Y B U L L E T I N

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G R O U P 65

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WHAT THE HELL IS GROUP 65?

It has always seemed strange to me, ever since I came into fandom, that one of the largest fan groups in the world - London Fandom - should be in such a formless and aimless condition. It has always seemed strange that London Fandom has remained split apart for all these years. It seems almost inconceivable that some London fans, who have been in fandom for well over a year, should have never once met several other London fans. I have since found that other people agree with me on this point, and there seems to be a definite willingness in some quarters for London Fandom to be a little more united in nature. There are at present, as you know, three basic fan groups co-existing in London. All of these groups are very worthwhile, and each have their own special atmosphere. It would be nearly impossible - and very foolish - to try to unite these groups into one. I am, at present, the only London fan to regularly attend all three groups, and I can testify that each is very different to the others, and that all are equally worth-while. What was really needed was a useful and interesting project, which could unify London Fandom in the sense that we would all be working towards a common goal.

The idea of Group 65 is that we produce a cine-film.

The idea came up at a recent meeting at 'The Globe', and was immediately seized upon with enthusiasm (yes, enthusiasm!) There and then it was decided to form Group 65. An informal meeting was arranged to decide upon the practicability of the scheme, and also the nature of Group 65. Finally, on Monday 20th. April, the first meeting of the group took place.

NOTES FROM THE FIRST MEETING

Group 65 consists of the following members:-

Frank Arnold
Dick Ellingsworth
Diane Goulding
Lang Jones
Pat Kearney
Ivor Mayne
Mike Moorcock
Charlie Smith
Marjorie Smith
Pete Taylor

Mike Moorcock was elected chairman by popular acclaim, and spent the rest of the meeting banging the table, trying to make himself heard.

The first item on the agenda was money.

It was agreed that we should invite contributions of one shilling a week from all members of London Fandom. For this, the contributor would receive a copy of the Monthly Bulletins, which would show exactly how much each contributor up to that time, and also show details of all the money spent. The bulletins would also give progress made on the film. Contributors will be welcome to attend and help in the actual production of the film. It was agreed that the nature of the film would be such as to include the greatest number of contributors.

All members of Group 65 agreed to pay 2/6d per week.

Then some group posts were decided. Charlie Smith has an honest face, and so we decided to make him Treasurer. Lang Jones, as editor of the Bulletin, became the Public Relations man (yes folks, at last I'm a filthy PRO!) Frank Arnold became Secretary.

It was decided that the money would be placed in the tender care of the Midland Bank, under the name of Group 65, and with Charlie Smith as signatory.

It was agreed that when the film was complete, all surplus cash would be donated to TAFF.

It was also agreed that we should approach the WorldCon Committee with regard to having the film shown on the programme.

The next item on the agenda was whether or not the film should be in 8mm or 16mm.

Lang Jones then revealed that mad, impulsive creature he is, he had purchased £90 worth of 8mm cine equipment. Charlie Smith suggested that this was in place of buying a new suit, to general merriment. As, by using this equipment, we would at least quarter the price of production, it was unanimously decided that we should use 8mm.

There is still some equipment that remains to be purchased, and this is listed below.

SYNCHRODEK UNIT (for synchronising tape-recorded sound-track)
- £15. Now by the time the film has been shot, it is very likely that I shall have bought one of these anyway, so it is unlikely that this, and the following item, will have to be bought.

SPROCKET FOR SYNCHRODEK (for accurate synchronisation) - 35s.

PERFORATED TAPE (as above) 1d per foot - £5 approx.

SUNDRY GADGETS - up to £20

It was agreed that the individual, in Group 65, would bear personally the cost of any expenses incurred, and that the kitty would be used only on materials concerned in the production of the film itself.

Then the type of film was discussed. Three kinds had been suggested. These were, documentary, fiction or fannish. This list was whittled down to a contest between fiction and fannish, and arguments for and against both were presented. Finally, against the screamed protests of Lang Jones, it was decided that the film should be serious fiction. The voting was $8\frac{1}{2}$ votes to $1\frac{1}{2}$ (you work it out, I can't).

Then Mike Moorcock suggested a tentative plot, which was received by all with enthusiasm, and will receive further discussion.

And that was what happened at the first meeting. Charlie Smith and myself will be the ones with the grasping little hands. Charlie will collect contributions (we hope), from the people who attend the 'Globe', and from those who go to Ella's Friday nights. I shall be collecting from the members of the SFCoL.

Personally, I sincerely hope that we have a good response from London Fandom; not because of the film, alone, but because this will show that the fans of London are willing to co-operate in a group project. It will show that London is capable of becoming once more, a coherent group.

My fannish dream at present, is that of a unified London. I hope my dream comes true.

Lang Jones

..... The Monthly Bulletin of Group 65

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CHARLES PLATT FOR TAFF!

MONTHLY BULLETIN - GROUP 65

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